

IPSWICH WATER DEPARTMENT

DROUGHT UPDATE

September 6, 2016

Drought Status: **DROUGHT EMERGENCY**

No outdoor watering

Limit all non-essential indoor water use - Use water more wisely!

New this week:

- After a determination of threat to the public water supply due to beaver was made by MassDEP, the Water Department received an emergency certification from the Conservation Commission to breach a beaver dam. The dam was blocking a culvert which was impounding water along Bull Brook. The breach was made and the beaver quickly plugged the pipe that same evening. A limited trapping permit was obtained and trapping will commence this week. A "beaver deceiver" will be installed next week to keep water flowing toward the reservoir.
- After several discussions with MassDEP, the Water Department has obtained a verbal declaration of water supply emergency. This declaration will offer the Water Department the flexibility to pursue options to meet demand without increasing the use of Browns Well, which has elevated levels of Manganese. To comply with the emergency declaration, Ipswich must continue the ban on all outdoor water use, as well as continue to urge all private well users to restrict their outdoor water use. More information on the emergency declaration will be available in the coming days and weeks.

It is imperative that water demand drop to winter levels immediately in order to ensure the Water Department can continue to meet basic domestic and firefighting needs.

REMINDER: Commercial customers are not exempt from drought requirements. Only those water use activities that are essential to conduct business are allowed.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Reservoir Capacity, Total: | 91,400,000 million gallons |
| Usable Storage as of 8/5/16: | 20,300,000 million gallons |
| Usable Storage as of 8/12/16: | 20,700,000 million gallons |
| Usable Storage as of 8/19/16: | 17,800,000 million gallons |
| Usable Storage as of 8/26/16: | 16,000,000 million gallons |
| Usable Storage as of 9/02/16: | 14,000,000 million gallons |

Where did last week's water come from? 25% Reservoir Water
75% Well Water

For more information visit:

www.ipswichma.gov

www.epa.gov/watersense

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WARNING

Should demand remain high, use of Browns and Fellows Road Wells will increase. These wells meet all primary drinking water standards, however, they do have elevated levels of Manganese. With elevated Manganese levels, parents are advised to use bottled or treated water for their young children, in particular to make formula.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Winter Average Daily Demand: | 0.8 million gallons per day (mgd) |
| Last Week's Average Daily Demand: | 1.0 million gallons per day (mgd) |
| Current Average Daily Demand: | 1.0 million gallons per day (mgd) |

**There has been no decrease in water use over the past 2 weeks.
Please help reduce town-wide water use by 200,000 gallons per day.**

Days of Supply Remaining at current demand of 1.0 mgd: 28 - 56 days

Reducing use to winter average extends our supply by 15 days per month

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| 2014 Total Precipitation Jan 1 - Aug 1: | 29.36 inches |
| 2015 Total Precipitation Jan 1 - Aug 1: | 32.13 inches |
| 2016 Total Precipitation Jan 1 - Aug 1: | 18.24 inches |
| | |
| Total Precipitation Aug 1 - Aug 8: | 0.20 inches |
| Total Precipitation Aug 9 - Aug 14: | 1.05 inches |
| Total Precipitation Aug 15 - Aug 21: | 0.90 inches |
| Total Precipitation Aug 22 - Aug 28: | 0.00 inches |
| Total Precipitation Aug 29 - Sept 4: | 0.00 inches |

What is the Water Department doing?

- Asking the community to share their water saving tips! Visit www.ipswichma.gov and click "Community Voice" to share suggestions.
- Increasing enforcement of the water ban. One warning is issued, a subsequent violation results in shut-off of water service
- Increasing use of well water
- Working with MassDEP to exploring interconnections with other communities
- Additional long term alternatives are being considered to augment our current sources

For more information visit:

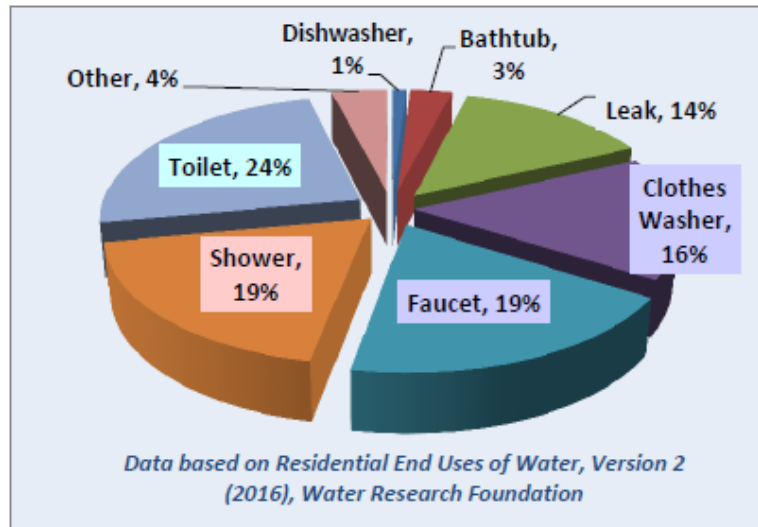
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Start Saving Water Indoors!



Daily percent of indoor water use, per person,
(sample: approx. 700 homes, nationwide)

Fix a Leak: Small household leaks can add up to gallons of water lost every day.

Try the drip calculator to see how much water is being wasted:

<http://www.awwa.org/resources-tools/public-affairs/public-information/dripcalculator.aspx>



In the bathroom: Over half of all water use inside a home takes place here:

Turn off the tap while shaving or brushing teeth.

Showers use less water than baths, as long as you keep an eye on how long you've been lathering up!

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In the kitchen: Big water savings to be achieved if you:

Plug up the sink or use a wash basin if washing dishes by hand.

Use a dishwasher; and when you do, make sure it's fully loaded!

While you're at it, scrape that plate instead of rinsing before loading it into the dishwasher.

Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the faucet run until the water is cool.

Thaw in the refrigerator overnight rather than using a running tap of hot water.

Add food wastes to your compost pile instead of using the garbage disposal.

In the laundry room: You can be clean AND green:

Wash only full loads of laundry or use the appropriate water level or load size selection on the washing machine.

Tips courtesy of EPA WaterSense

The Town of Ipswich thanks you for making every drop count!



Western end of Dow Brook Reservoir, facing East toward dam

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